

Appl. No. 10/087,856
Amdt dated Dec. 8, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Sep. 10, 2004

Remarks

Claims 15-18 remain in this application. Claims 21-36 are new. Claims 2, 9, 14, 19 and 20 were previously cancelled and claims 1, 3-8 and 10-13 are presently canceled.

The Examiner is thanked for allowing independent claim 15 as well as dependent claims 16-18. Claims 15-18 are currently amended to clarify applicant's invention. These amendments are fully supported by the specification and are not believed to affect the allowability of claims 15-18. New claims 21-36 are dependent upon independent claim 15 and are therefore believed to be allowable at least for this reason.

As each claim remaining herein is directed to allowable subject matter, Applicant submits the amendment puts the application in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is requested.

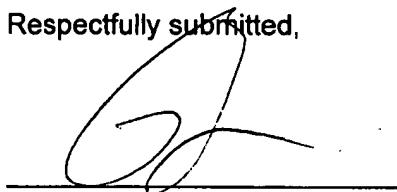
Applicant advises its present amendment is directed to expediting the issuance of this allowable subject matter and is not to be construed as surrendering any subject matter in the amended or canceled claims or as an admission that such claims prior to this amendment are not patentable. Thus, all previously and currently canceled claims are canceled without prejudice.

If the Examiner believes there are any further matters which need to be discussed in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

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There are 20 effective claims after this amendment, 1 of which is independent. No additional claims fees are believed to be owing. However, should fees be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 195113, as per the Fee Transmittal Form filed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: December 8, 2004